

Advisory Council to the Division of Autism Services  
Minutes, July 16, 2008

The meeting was called to order and an opportunity for public comment was given. No members of the public were present.

The minutes of the meeting of May 7 were approved with minor modifications.

Announcements

A member spoke about her son's situation in the legal system based on inappropriate Internet usage; Lois Rosenwald spoke of training being conducted by ASRC for first responders. There was some discussion of state vs. federal offenses. Dr. Klin and ASRC are working with federal attorneys on this issue.

Presentation on Medicaid Waivers

The majority of the meeting was comprised by a presentation on Medicaid waivers from Dawn Lambert from the Department of Social Services. The presentation was clear, concise yet thorough, and great appreciation was expressed by Council members to Ms. Lambert for the presentation.

At the end of the presentation Kathy Reddington gave some preliminary information about the feasibility study for an Autism Medicaid waiver. She indicated that the model to be used was a person-centered model, with the client having some ability to hire staff for certain jobs. People who scored between 1-7 on the level of need tool will be eligible. An outside agency will be used for fiscal controls. There will be a Quality Assurance System. A part of the Quality Assurance System will be interviews with participants. Safeguards will be built into an individual's plan.

Committee Reports

Jacqueline Kelleher from the Data committee said she will circulate a document with her initial thoughts. She requested that individuals with particular data needs or questions be in touch with her.

The chairs of the Provider committee were changed to Larry Wood and Stan Soby.

The Medicaid Waiver committee did not issue a report over and above [the one given by Ms. Lambert.](#)

[Separately, Kathy Reddington reported that DDS has a system where individuals receive rent subsidy. The Autism division is exploring the possibility of providing similar. The current system uses spend down which leaves the person with \\$350.00 per week.](#)

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.